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British Museum, and consequently has given us many new details. These are used, however, to illustrate the views of others, from which the author rarely finds it necessary to deviate.

The chapter on Commercial Changes follows the usual course, in dealing solely with foreign trade. Although the widening of the market area within England, with all that meant to industry and agriculture, may well be regarded as of the first importance, yet internal trade is here passed over almost as if non-existent. The treatment of agrarian changes is perhaps the weakest part of the book. The author raises our expectations when he brings together some new statistical data regarding the exportation of corn, which would naturally throw light upon agricultural conditions, but our hopes are soon cast down when the meagerness of his researches is apparent, and especially when he shows, through a lack of knowledge of the corn laws of the period, inability to interpret his materials.

The book, is on the whole, very readable and useful to the student as a summary of the results of the labors of others, and as a directory to the sources for the period, though there are some surprising bibliographical gaps. As a scientific treatise, it is marred by an insufficient index. An appendix of fifteen pages of documents, chiefly from manuscript sources, adds somewhat to the value of the work.

N. S. B. GRAS.

Cambridge, Mass.

Small Estate Management. By ALBERT C. FREEMAN. (London: Rebman and Company, Ltd. Pp. xxiv, 119. 2s. 6d. net.)

At this time, when the problem of feeding the people of this and other modern countries is receiving such special attention, when the cry heard in all parts of this country is "back to the land," and when the movement in the British Islands is towards small estates, a book like Mr. Freeman's deserves notice.

The strongest reason given for the movement back to the land in England is not sentiment, health, or a desire to establish a sturdy yeoman class rather than a class of large holders, but the fact that "millions of imports of agricultural produce [are brought]

every year into this country." "The largest items consist of foods which are the most easily produced by the small farmer." Of such foods "thirty-six millions is dairy produce, seven millions eggs and poultry, nineteen millions bacon and other pig meats, and three millions apples and potatoes." "Vast sums," the author tells us, "pass away from this country every year, yet the land is ready to yield under homesteads its quota of poultry, cattle, pigs, fruit, and vegetables."

The book briefly reviews the legislation which has been passed to encourage the small farmer, including the allotments Act of 1887, and the Small Holdings and Allotments Acts of 1892 and 1907. But it is not enough to state the laws. Laws sometimes do not work as we hope. After stating that "the advantage of the working of the small holdings may be judged from the experiments that have already been made," the author enumerates many concrete cases picked at random.

Believing that there will be a great movement toward the country and the suburban districts, Mr. Freeman devotes the major part of the book to a consideration of the problems which should be met before it is too late. He urges that "the rural and semi-rural housing problem is one of the most urgent." Sanitation, disposal of waste, water, light, and building materials receive attention.

But the farm as a home does not receive as much attention as the farm as a factory. The problems of farm management, fertility, crops, etc., are considered, and the dairy comes in for its share of attention. The author says: "It is now universally acknowledged that the buildings provided for dealing with the supply of milk and its manufacture into butter and cheese, should be so constructed as to insure the health of the community. This being so, it is one of the first duties of the sanitary authorities and the builder to see that all buildings are so constructed as to obtain absolute cleanliness. It is necessary to keep milk perfectly pure by placing it under such conditions that it cannot be contaminated by dirt or effluvia of any kind." A well written chapter deals with the regulations of dairies which are comparable to some of the pure-food laws and factory regulation of this country.

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